

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A hydroentangling support fabric for use in a hydroentangling device for the production of a hydroentangled nonwoven product, said support fabric comprising flat filaments, and wherein said support fabric is in a continuous loop or made endless.
2. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said support fabric includes machine direction (MD) filaments and cross-machine direction (CD) filaments and said flat filaments include only a portion of said MD filaments.
3. (Withdrawn) A hydroentangling support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fabric includes MD filaments and CD filaments and said flattened filaments include all of said MD filaments.
4. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said support fabric includes MD filaments and CD filaments and said flat filaments include only a portion of said CD filaments.
5. (Withdrawn) A hydroentangling support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fabric includes MD filaments and CD filaments and said flattened filaments include all of said CD filaments.
6. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said support fabric includes MD filaments and CD filaments and said flat filaments include a combination of said MD filaments and said CD filaments.

7. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said support fabric is a multilayer weave fabric and said flat filaments are incorporated into only one layer.

8. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 7, wherein said one layer is the wear side layer.

9. (Withdrawn) A hydroentangling support fabric as set forth in claim 7, wherein said one layer is the forming side layer.

10. (Withdrawn) A hydroentangling support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fabric is a triple layer fabric and said flattened filaments are incorporated into only one layer.

11. (Withdrawn) A hydroentangling support fabric as set forth in claim 10, wherein said one layer is the wear side layer.

12. (Withdrawn) A hydroentangling support fabric as set forth in claim 10, wherein said one layer is the forming side layer.

13. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 1, wherein the permeability of said support fabric is greater than 350 cfm.

14-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A support fabric for a hydroentangling process carried out on a hydroentangling device, said support fabric comprising flat filaments, wherein said flat filaments are incorporated into said support fabric during production of said support fabric, and wherein said support fabric is in a continuous loop or made endless.

24. (Withdrawn) A support fabric for a hydroentangling process as set forth in claim 23, wherein said flattened filaments are formed through extrusion prior to weaving of said support fabric.
25. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 23, wherein said flat filaments are formed by calendering non-flat filaments prior to weaving of said support fabric.
26. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 23, wherein said flat filaments are formed by calendering a source fabric.
27. (Previously Presented) The support fabric as set forth in claim 26, wherein said calendering is applied to only one side of said source fabric.
28. (Withdrawn) A support fabric for a hydroentangling process as set forth in claim 26, wherein said calendering is applied to only both sides of said source fabric.
29. (Withdrawn) A support fabric for a hydroentangling process as set forth in claim 23, wherein said flattened filaments are formed by sanding a source fabric.
30. (Cancelled)